

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (currently amended) The method of
guarding the first, third and middle fingers of a culinary
worker, that includes the steps

a) providing a culinary finger guard plate, two
finger guards upstanding from a side of the plate and having
intermediate spacing therebetween to receive a user's middle
finger to extend generally parallel to the plate, each
finger guard having a finger retention portion overhanging
the plate to provide adjustable spaces to receive the user's
first and third fingers, between said overhanging portions
and the plate, said overhanging portions projecting with
curvatures in opposite directions, and away from each other
and with convexity toward said intermediate spacing whereby

said intermediate spacing between the guards has venturi shape in a direction away from the plate;

- b) inserting said middle finger into the venturi shaped space formed between the two guards,
- c) and also inserting said first and third fingers beneath said finger retention portions,
- d) and using said device during culinary cutting of an object with said plate shielding the user's fingers from the cutting tool.

Claim 11 (original) The method of claim 10 including exerting sideward forces from said first and third fingers against guard portions at opposite sides of said spacing therebetween.

Claim 12 (currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 10 including providing each guard to have a terminal spaced from the plate, allowing the guard to flex during culinary use, said terminal having bulbous shape.